The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Reason and virtue alone can bestow liberty.—Shaftesbury.

WHOLE NO. 1149 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1933 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 23, NO. 6

Federal Thirty-Hour Week Unlimited

The 1932 convention of the American Federation of Labor declared that the paramount purpose of the American Labor Movement is to secure the nation-wide adoption of the six-hour day and five-day week and consecrated the full use of Labor's economic and political forces to that end.

When on April 6 the United States Senate passed the bill introduced by Senator Black of Alabama barring from the channels of interstate commerce goods manufactured by labor employed more than six hours per day or five days per week, the achievement of Labor's paramount purpose received a decided impetus.

In a statement on the Senate's action, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said:

"The Senate of the United States did a very fine thing when it rejected a proposal to change the Black shorter work week bill from a 30-hour to a 36-hour work week measure.

"It did a finer thing when by a decisive majority it passed the Black Bill which provides for a five-day work week, six-hour work day law, which applies to those employers of labor whose manufactured goods are shipped in interstate commerce.

"This action of the Senate can be properly interpreted as a blow at the vital spot of unemployment. In operation it will create work opportunities for millions of idle working men and women. It represents the first real practical step on the part of the Government to constructively deal with the problem of unemployment. Labor regards the passage of the Black Bill by the United States Senate as an outstanding achievement.

"Definite concentrated efforts will now be put forth to secure favorable action by the House of Representatives. We feel positive and certain that the Members of Congress who make up the House of Representatives will vote as decisively for the adoption of the shorter work week bill as did the United States Senate."

With over 13,000,000 unemployed workers pounding the pavements throughout the United States, a large portion of them and their families eking out a precarious existence on charity relief, it is expected that the House of Representatives will give prompt consideration to the thirty-hour week bill and enact it into law without nullifying amendments disguised under the deceptive term "elasticity."

It should be remembered that the main purpose of the bill as passed by the Senate is not to cater to the convenience of employers, but to provide jobs for some 6,000,000 unemployed workers and a decent living for their dependents. In the language of Senator Black, "it makes employment of the unemployed the major objective."

The crisis in unemployment demands the Federal 30-hour-week unlimited. Congressional statesmanship should not do less than meet this demand.

Railroad Mismanagement

The organized labor movement has contended time after time that much of the present financial predicament of the railroads is due to the mismanagement of the railway executives.

Confirmation of this claim now comes from John F. Harris, a director of the Southern Pacific Company and of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

In discussing the advantages of the proposed Government czar for the railroads, politely called a "moderator" or a "coordinator," Mr. Harris declares that such an official endowed with adequate authority could save the railroads from $100,000,000 to $150,000,000 annually through elimination of duplicated facilities and services.

Duplicated railway facilities and services do not fall into place like manna from heaven fell on the Israelites. They are established and installed by the orders of the railway executives themselves. Now these same executives admit that the facilities and services are not essential to transportation and should be abolished. And they are such a bunch of anarchistic inefficients that they can't do the scrapping themselves but must run to the Government for a dictator!

When the czar effects the millions of savings predicted by Mr. Harris the entire amount should be devoted to restoring the wage slashes imposed on the railway employes many months ago.

Communists and Trade Unions

The hostility of the Communists towards bona fide trade unions was very clearly expressed by Losovsky, the secretary of the Red International of Labor Unions a year ago. In the official magazine of the R. I. L. U. of February, 1932, he said:

"In creating the Red Trade Union organization have you strengthened the trade unions? Do you want to strengthen them? Nothing of the kind. So long as we do not weaken and discredit them before the masses, so long as we do not disrupt their discipline, so long as the trade union apparatus is not destroyed, so long will they keep back a portion of the workers, just so long will they disrupt the struggle of the working class—the economic and political struggle."

It is these destroyers of the trade unions, assisted by a shallow-brained group of intellectuals, who roam over the country talking about the necessity of a "united" labor front.

Labor unity will not be found by flirting with Communist wreckers of the trade union movement or with other radical groups whose anti-union methods and objectives are equally as sinister although less outspoken. Unity can only be attained by strengthening the loyalty of workers to the trade union movement and using every effort to build it up.

ROOSEVELT ASKS MINIMUM PAY LAW IN 13 STATES

Washington. — President Roosevelt sent a telegram to the governors of thirteen industrial States calling attention to the new minimum wage law of New York State and expressing the hope that other States would adopt similar laws "for the protection of the public interest."

The New York law, the President said, "declares it against public policy for any employer to pay women or minors a wage which is 'both less than the fair and reasonable value of services rendered and less than sufficient to meet the ultimate cost of living necessary for health'."

"This represents," the President added, "a great forward step against lowering of wages, which constitutes a serious form of unfair competition against other employers, reduces the purchasing power of the workers, and threatens the stability of industry."

The message was sent to the Governors of the following States: New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Maryland, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Alabama, and New Hampshire.

Belgian Socialists Spurn Communist "United Front"

Brussels, Belgium.—The general council of the Socialist party rejected an offer of the Communist party to form a united front.

Brewery Workers Strike Against 15% Wage Slash

Newark, N. J.—Union machinists, firemen and engineers employed by the Krueger Brewery Co. here struck against a 15 per cent wage reduction. It was alleged to be the first strike of brewery employes since beer became legal. The company refused to sign a new agreement with the unions and in defense of the cut said it is impossible to determine how profitable the manufacture of beer will be.

Copper Miners Menaced By 6-Months Shut-Down

New York.—Financiers connected with the copper industry predicted an immediate shut-down of the copper mines in the United States. It was said the mines would probably be closed for at least six months. Overproduction and inability to sell copper at a profit were given as the reasons for closing the mines. Copper stocks now total about 650,000 tons, with a consumption of around 30,000 tons a month. A six-months shut-down would still leave 530,000 tons on hand.

The three largest copper-producing organizations in the United States are the Kennecott Corporation, the Phelps Dodge Corporation, and the Anaconda Copper Company. It is said that except for some employment around the mines and indefinite statements about possible dates, the companies have made no arrangements for the care of their employes during the shut-down. Private and public charity will probably be expected to shoulder the burden.

Shirt Factory Girls Strike As Pay Is Cut 25 Per Cent

Uniontown, Pa.—Unorganized girls employed by the Uniontown Barkowitz Company went on strike when they were notified their wages would be cut 25 per cent. The girls refused to leave either a committee from the strikers or the State Conciliator and threatened to move his factory to another town if the girls did not return to work at the wage rate set for it by the Conciliator. Officials of the Central Trades and Labor Council advised the strikers.

Radiator Plant Locks Out Workers for Joining Union

Uniontown, Pa.—Because employes of the Richmond Radiator Company here organized under a charter from the International Brotherhood of Foundry Employes they were locked out. The members of the union then asked the other employes to back them by striking and as a result the entire plant was shut up, about 400 men being affected.

Congressman Nesbit Supports Federal Six-Hour Day and Five-Day Week Bill

Illinois Representative Says Measure Is Necessary to Provide Work for Millions of Jobless—Shorter Hours Will Not Reduce Output—Slavery to Machine Must Be Abolished

Washington.—A vigorous demand for the immediate enactment of the Federal thirty-hour week bill was made by Walter Nesbit, Congressman-at-Large from Illinois and a member of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, which is considering the proposal.

The bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Black of Alabama has already passed that body. It prohibits interstate commerce in articles manufactured by labor employed more than five days per week or more than seven per day. Representative Connery of Massachusetts, chairman of the House Labor Committee, has also introduced a bill similar to the Black bill. The committee is considering both measures.

"Federal legislation establishing the six-hour day and the five-day week in American industry is the new emancipation proclamation of American labor," Mr. Nesbit declared.

"Other adjustments to carry forward the high social ideals sought through this legislation must come just as reconstruction and adjustment followed the freeing of the slaves.

Unemployment Crisis Demands Action

"Economic quackery, blind and prejudiced propaganda, and unwarranted fears in a few of our industrial leaders in the midst of ruined lives, ruined business and abundant wealth they would avert the avalanche of crucial events is blind devotion to the economic ritual of outworn Tory dogmas.

"There are 15,000,000 willing American workers idle. Unemployment increasing faster than the means of relief. We must meet this situation constructively and fearlessly. We must do the thing that is needed. The alternative is to sit down and wait until the misery distress of the vast army of unemployed overwhelms our democratic institutions. We must take up the slack of unemployment.

Wage Reductions Bogey

"Those who maintain that a reduced working day and a reduced working week will further decrease the individual weekly total wage speak without knowledge of the history of the movement for increased leisure to workers.

"The President of the American Federation of Labor, William Green, stuck with the authority of past accomplishments when he told the House Committee on Labor that the establishment of the five-day week and the six-hour day would result in increased wages rather than to diminish them.

"The movement for wage reduction during the depression years has succeeded regardless of the working hours in various industries. Many short-sighted manufacturers have mercilessly slashed wages despite their pledges not to do so. The vast reservoir of the unemployed who are undernourished and desperate does more to depress wages than any other thing.

Increase Purchasing Power

"America awaits increased spending power. In the face of the abdication of private business the Government must care for the citizens of the land. People or else fail to justify its existence. America has not lost its genius, we are told in Al Smith's New Outlook for April. 'It has lost control over its wealth' and will that control be established? Not by a return to sweated labor; not by destruction of the machine, but by increasing power. We must take the forward path, create the leisure which consumers need for the enjoyment of twentieth-century products and create the purchasing power with which those products can be obtained.

"We live in the richest single community ever known to the human race. Why should we stand helpless before this peril of plenty? Shall we bow down to the machine and fear to eat the manna which it provides? Shall we remain slaves of the things we have created or shall we act as intelligent men?

Shorter Hours Raise Wage Standard

"Wage standards under the eight-hour day are far above the standards under the ten-hour day and the day. Both employers and employes have profited by the shorter working hours, and, even if temporarily this should fail to check the downward course of wages in the dissenting plants, it will solidify labor and give it the backing of security to support its demands for a more already been conceded by far-sighted employers who have established the working conditions required in this new legislation.

"The five-day week has been adopted by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the Standard Oil Company, and the great cement manufacturers. They report that the workers have increased their efficiency and their total output and are earning the wages which others receive for longer working hours.

Exemptions Prevent Hardships

"Special hardships which this might bring to farmers and certain industries dealing with perishable goods are eliminated in the exemption clauses of the bill," Mr. Nesbit concluded. "This legislation is part of the 'new deal.' Those who oppose it most blindly today will benefit by its far-visioned philosophy. This is progress."

Labor's Place in Direction Of Government Industries

London, Eng.—The general council of the Trades Union Congress and the executive of the Labor Party endorsed the principle that the claim of organized labor to its place in the control and management of publicly-owned industries should be recognized by the Government.

New York Aldermen Urge Big Bank Salaries Be Cut

New York.—The Board of Aldermen unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the Legislature to empower the State superintendent of Banks to regulate the salaries of officers of banks under his jurisdiction. The resolution pointed out that the bankers have insisted that the city "economies" by reducing the pay of clerks receiving as little as $2,000 and of higher paid officials as well. It added that they could help to restore faith in bankers and in banking by reducing their own salaries, some of which, the resolution stated, are as high as $1,000,000 a year.

SUPREME COURT RULES U. S. WORKERS MAY KEEP PATENTS

Washington. — Inventors employed by Federal employes belong to the public and not to the Government, unless they have been specifically assigned to work out the inventions, the Supreme Court has ruled. The decision was given in the case of the Dubilier Condenser Corporation.

The opinion concerned three radio inventions by two employes of the Bureau of Standards and subsequently controlled by the Dubilier Corporation. The Government sued the corporation, contending the patents belonged to the Government because the inventors worked them out while employed by the Bureau of Standards.

Associate Justice Stone dissented from the decision, holding that it was "unconscionable" of the two inventors to withhold from public and Government full benefit of their inventions. Chief Justice Hughes and Justice Cardozo also dissented, supporting the opinion of Justice Stone.

UTILITY REDUCES WAGES, THOUGH PROFITS INCREASE

Hartford, Conn.—All minor employes of the Connecticut Electric Service Company and its subsidiary, the Connecticut Light and Power Company, have had their wages cut, though the company reports an increase in profits of $112,000 during 1932 available for dividends. The increase was made despite a business decrease of $745,774 and a lowering of rates, J. Henry Roraback, political "boss" in Connecticut, is president of the two companies.

Vienna Printers Strike Against Press Censorship

Vienna, Austria.—The organized compositors on all the Vienna daily newspapers declared a strike in protest against a government order compelling the publishers of the Arbeiter-Zeitung, official organ of the Austrian Social-Democratic Party, to submit their two daily papers, the Arbeiter-Zeitung and the Das Kleine Blatt, to the censor two days before issue.

Survey Showed 16 Per Cent Of Destitute Idle Were Ill

New York.—Commissioner Thomas Parran, Jr., of the State Department of Health, told the Medical Society of the State of New York that 16 per cent of the State's destitute unemployed were ill, according to a survey of 1,000 families receiving public relief was made last December.

Weaving Company Fined

Northampton, Mass.—College Weavers, Inc., were fined $100 for employing women without pay on the pretext of being there learning the trade. The company appealed the decision.

NEW YORK FACTORY JOBS DROPPED 3.6% IN MARCH

Albany, N. Y.—"Deflation" of employment and wages in New York State continues. Factory employment in the State declined 3.6 per cent in March, due primarily to the banking holiday, Industrial Commissioner Elmer F. Andrews reported. There is usually a seasonal gain of 1 per cent in March. Total wage payments decreased 5.3 per cent. The payroll index is at the lowest point since 1914, when the collection of employment and wage statistics began, Andrews said. The downward movement was general, with all the major industrial groups participating.

RAILROAD AUTHORIZED TO CONTINUE PENSIONS

St. Louis, Mo.—Federal Judge Faris has approved an application by the management of the Missouri Pacific Railroad to continue paying approximately $62,000 a month in pensions to retired employes. The railroad is in bankruptcy under the amended Federal Bankruptcy law. The management told the judge that the pension system was inaugurated in 1917 and that even a temporary discontinuance would deprive pensioned employes. Employes receiving pensions must be 70 years old and have had 25 continuous years' service with the railroad.

DECENT-WAGE LABEL URGED FOR USE IN GARMENT TRADE

Representatives of Women Workers Plan to Mark Goods Made Under Fair Labor Standards—Mrs. Roosevelt Approves Movement.

New York.—A meeting called here by the Women's Bureau Union Leagues developed plans whereby women consumers of millions of dollars worth of garments would be told which ones might know whether the clothes they buy are produced under conditions assuring the workers a fair wage.

Spokesmen for several hundred thousand women in the needle trades have agreed to form a committee to devise a label or label, which would be put on garments would assure the public that certain fixed standards had been followed by the manufacturers.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt endorsed the movement, as did many prominent writers and advertising experts formulate a publicity campaign to stress the humanitarian side of the movement.

Mary Anderson, chief of the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, said that minimum wage standards should be built up before undertaking the label campaign. She claimed that to further the label program now would be futile and ineffective because of the cutthroat competition of employers which is resulting in a continued lowering of wage standards.

Dr. Hinrich Hinrichs, who was chairman of the label division of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, told the meeting that many efforts by employers could not raise minimum standards, which, he said, must be enforced by law. He believed consumers had the power to compel retailers to handle only garments that bear a union label, or their manufacture under decent wage and sanitary standards.

David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, declared that the average earnings of workers in the needle trades were below the minimum of subsistence and that unless this movement was checked there would be a return to the insanitary sweatshop of twenty-five years ago.

Rose Schneiderman, president of the National Women's Trade Union League, presided.

Bill to Curb Sweat Shops In Connecticut Is Adopted

Hartford, Conn.—The Connecticut Legislature has adopted a bill empowering all Connecticut factories to register with the State Labor Commissioner full information as to their manner of operation. The bill is aimed at New York sweat shop manufacturers who have been coming into the State in increasing numbers since the depression began.

Judge Issues Injunction In Hosiery Mill Strike

Boonton, N. J.—The Chancery Court of New Jersey issued a sweeping injunction which stopped picketing at the Boonton Full Fashioned Hosiery Mills. The injunction was issued by Vice Chancellor John H. Backes and Chancellor Luther B. Campbell. Trade unionists denounced the injunction as the work of "injunction judges" who have failed to grasp the significance of the popular trend toward the labor injunction as labor's property if intelligent and foreign commerce languish, the Nation languishes, and there must soon security and peace, freedom of want, destitution, misery, illness, and unemployment.

"This bill, therefore, it is believed comes within the constitutional interpretation held by the progressive minority of the Supreme Court in the Child Labor case.

Decisions Adjusted to Conditions

"Attention is called to the fact, however, that the child labor case was decided by a divided court of 5 to 4.

"Conditions today are different from conditions existing when the decision was decided. Laws must be interpreted to meet conditions existing when the law is interpreted.

"Our Constitution has been interpreted from time to time to meet situations and conditions that could not have been seen by the writers of that great document.

"Its interpretation has made it possible to adjust laws written under its terms to fit alike the exact and the changing needs of the people as the spinning of modern factories.

"Today America faces a real reality." Senator Black concluded. **"Hungry and despairing men and women have a right to demand that their representatives look at the modern situation with modern eyes. If change is needed to secure evils growing out of old practices, change must come."**

Constitutionality of 30-Hour Week Clearly Affirmed by Senator Black

Author of Measure to Provide Work for 6,000,000 Jobless Declares Congress Has Authority to Regulate Interstate Commerce by Prescribing Length of Work Week—Laws Must Be Interpreted to Meet Changing Conditions.

Washington.—The constitutionality of the proposed law to prevent interstate commerce in articles manufactured by labor employed more than five days per week or six hours per day was ably defended by Senator Hugo L. Black of Alabama, author of the bill, in the report which he wrote for the Senate Judiciary Committee favoring the measure.

"This committee believes interstate commerce cannot be revived without increasing the purchasing power of the people," Senator Black said. "This makes necessary that the income of farmers and industrial workers be increased. It makes employment of the unemployed a major objective of the program to restore the channels of interstate commerce upon which today hinges the economic soundness of the Nation.

Power to Regulate Commerce

"Congress is given the right to regulate interstate commerce by the Constitution. This power was given in order that Congress might remove the rules necessary to preserve the benefits of commerce to all the people.

"Especially since the foundation of the Government, the right of the people to preserve the benefits of interstate commerce has never been more seriously imperiled than today. The power to regulate, under all the decisions, includes the right to protect the people from that kind of commerce which produces widespread human misery, destitution, sickness, and want.

"The power to regulate carries with it the right to prescribe rules that will save commerce from self-destruction and protect all the people from practices of some of the people engaged in interstate commerce that destroy commerce itself."

Child Labor Ruling Not Applicable

In comparing the proposed thirty-hour week law with the Federal child labor law which the United States Supreme Court declared unconstitutional by a five to four vote, Senator Black said:

"This measure, unlike the child labor bill, does not merely affect a small percentage of American workmen, in order to prevent working practices which their States, bought by Congress to be detrimental to those individual children working within the States.

"This bill has a broader base and a broader object. It is directed toward interstate commerce in its larger aspects. It is effective as to men, women, children, but millions of those engaged in interstate commerce. Interstate and foreign commerce have today reached such national proportions that the national economic equilibrium of property depends upon its life and vitality. If this great industry if interstate and foreign commerce languish, the Nation languishes, and there must soon security and peace, freedom of want, destitution, misery, illness, and unemployment.

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Green Denounces Raid on Public Schools of Capital of the Nation

SAILORS ON GREAT LAKES ASK END OF 12-HOUR DAY

Union Denounces Long Day on Cargo Vessels as Disgrace to American Industry and Appeals to President and Other Officials for "New Deal" on Working Time.

Cleveland, O.—Though the United States Senate has approved a bill for a six-hour day, sailors on the Great Lakes still work 12 hours a day. In letters to President Roosevelt and Federal and State officials, C. M. Goshorn, acting secretary of the Sailors' Union of the Great Lakes, directs attention to the long work-day on Lake cargo vessels and says:

"Five thousand Great Lakes sailors, both union and non-union, earnestly feel that the time has arrived for a 'new deal' in working hours on board bulk freight vessels.

"Exploitation of these sailors under the 12-hour day is a disgrace to American industry and should be ended now. The bulk freight vessel owners of the Great Lakes are the last important group to cling to the obsolete two-watch system or 12-hour day."

The letters, listed 22 steamship companies which work their sailors 12 hours a day.

"Economy" Advocate Attacks Social Insurance Campaign

New York.—Merwin K. Hart, president of the New York State Economic Council, is all hot and bothered about the campaign for compulsory social insurance. He is especially excited about unemployment and minimum wage legislation in New York State. Speaking here, he told members of the Women's National Republican Club that business fears compulsory social insurance, which he asserted is advocated "by a little group," largely of foreign origin. He added he was not opposed to welfare work for those who can afford. Hart's organization has been a vociferous advocate of "economy" in government.

Soviet Recognition Protested

New York.—Recognition of the Russian Soviet Government by the United States should be withheld until the Soviet "ceases to stop subversive propaganda in the United States," Matthew Woll, acting president, and Ralph M. Easley, chairman of the executive council of the National Civic Federation, said in a letter to Secretary of State Hull.

Amendment of U. S. Employes Compensation Act Is Sought

Washington. — Senator Goldsborough of Maryland has introduced a bill to amend the United States employes compensation act, to provide for continuation of payments for disability or compensation to parents of deceased employes after the prescribed eight-year period. The law now provides that the compensation to dependent parents shall cease when the beneficiary dies, marries, or ceases to be dependent. The amendment would permit continuation of payments to those entitled to them as long as they remain dependent.

Bill Signed Boosting Penalty For Minimum Pay Violations

Boston.—Gov. Ely has signed a bill to increase the penalties for violation of the decrees of the Minimum Wage Commission. The measure provides a fine of $300 for violation of the act, as against a $50 fine under the old law. The bill is aimed at manufacturers who have opened shops paying lower shop wages during the last two years.

"Paul Reveres" Organized To Fight Reds in Schools

Chicago, Ill.—An organization known as the "Paul Reveres" was established here to remove communistic influences from educational institutions.

Colonel Ralph M. Hadley, president of the organization, said chapters would be organized throughout the Nation and that a campaign would be carried on against the recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

"There are more than 4,000,000 agents preaching communistic doctrines in the United States at present," Colonel Hadley said.

"We know of at least 700 college professors, high school teachers, and members of boards of education who are in sympathy with the communists and are preaching their doctrines."

Colonel Hadley said the advisory board of the Paul Reveres included Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, former Governor Walter J. Kohler of Wisconsin, Senator Clayton R. Lusk of the State of New York, Governor Edwin P. Morrow of Kentucky, and representatives of the American Legion and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Employers Warned Against Violating Labor Statute

Concord, N. H.—Gov. John J. Winant has warned manufacturers that prosecutions will follow violations of the law enacted for the protection of women and children in industry. "I have asked the attorney general to concentrate on these statutes to prosecute to the limit of the law wherever and when they break these safeguards, which were written into the law to protect human life," the Governor said in a statement.

Exploitation of Working Girls Fought in Chicago

Chicago, Ill.—Twenty-five civic organizations here led by the Women's Trade Union League started a movement to protect working girls from exploitation by unscrupulous employers interested solely in profits.

Miss Agnes Nestor, president of the league, who is preparing a report on low wages and the misery wrought by sweatshop methods, said that employers, after repeated wage reductions, are now paying girls less than enough to feed, clothe and house them.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF LABOR OPENS JUNE 19

The Seventeenth Session of the Summer School of Labor and Industry for Women will open June 19 and close August 26, it was announced by Miss Hilda W. Smith, director. The school is conducted by Bryn Mawr College in cooperation with the Women's Trade Union League of New York.

GOVERNMENT OPERATION OF IDLE PLANTS ASKED

New York Engineers Present Revolutionary Plan to Put Machinery of Production in Reach of Unemployed Millions.

New York.—The New York chapter of the Society of Industrial Engineers approved a proposal to have the Government assume control of mines, mills and farms for operation by the unemployed with a view to their self-sustaining self-help program and adopted a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to develop the plan for carrying the program into effect.

The action followed acceptance of the report of a committee appointed last January by Dr. Harlow C. Carmody, national president of the society, to investigate and present its findings on the significance of technocracy.

The committee consisted of practicing engineers in New York City, in various fields, including teaching, appraisal, consulting management, executive and operating.

Members of the committee included Walter M. Polakov, committee chairman; W. H. Leffingwell, Joseph W. Roe, professor of engineering, New York University; H. H. Olsen and W. H. Gesell.

Basing its recommendations on economic trends and engineering data, the committee has begun preparation of a "war on the idleness of the nation's productive facilities" to be carried on by the Government, advised by the engineering board.

While these plans for permanent economic rehabilitation are being worked out, the committee urged that consideration be given to the immediate emergency program, which is the commandeering and operation of idle plants, for the relief of suffering caused by unemployment.